INTRODUCTION

THE publication of *Human, all-too-Human* extends over the period 1878-1880. Of the two divisions which constitute the Second Fart, " Miscellaneous Maxims and Opinions " appeared in 1879, and "The Wanderer and his Shadow" in 1880, Nietzsche being then in his thirty-sixth year. The Preface was added in 1886. The whole book forms Nietzsche's first lengthy contribution to literature. His previous works comprise only the philological treatises, *The Birth of Tragedy,* and the essays on Strauss, Schopenhauer, and Wagner in *Thoughts out of Season.*

With the volumes of *Human, all-too - Human* Nietzsche appears for the first time in his true colours as philosopher. His purely scholarly publications, his essays in literary and musical criticism — especially the essay on Richard Wagner at Bay-reuth—had, of course, foreshadowed his work as a thinker.

These efforts, however, had been mere fragments, from which hardly any one could observe that a new philosophical star had arisen on the horizon. But by 1878 the period of transition had definitely set in. Outwardly, the new departure is marked by Nietzsche's resignation in that year of his professor-